

STATE COLLEGIAN

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Thursday, Feb 9, 1905.

EDITORIAL

The following extract from an editorial in the *Princeton Tiger* can be very aptly applied to the situation here at State:—

The American is above all things a faddist, a man who rushes to extremes. What could be more mercurial than the temperament of a people who make a hero in one day, and unmake him the next day because he gives his wife a house which they have presented to him? The yellow journals with their skyscraper headlines see to it that the American people change their fads almost as rapidly as the EXTRA pursues its first edition in the mad race for news. An author, practically unknown, is taken up by those high in power, and soon his mode of living becomes a household word, only to sink into oblivion at the approach of a newer fad. With such characteristics as these it is no wonder that our particular community of the American people is too prone to rail at the unjust of those in power over the university. But is it not an extremist community in which a man

is voted the most popular professor by a graduating class, and then three years afterward almost universally condemned on account of some slight of-fence which he may have given to the ultra-sensitive university feeling? Not that we condone the of-fence in question, mark you, but it is such a small thing, taken all in all, that we are inclined at least to investigate both sides of the matter. And that is seldom done by the radical student. As soon as he sees any change in our university world that he does not like, he jumps right in and condemns it, without trying to find out the reason for its being. The men in power are criticized simply because they are in power, but surely they have as high an ideal for Princeton as the man who sits before his club fire and rails at their inefficiency. It is a sad fact that a professor who is strict, be he ever so square, is not so popular with the undergraduates as his more lenient colleague. And when the faculty bring forward a measure which makes for a higher academic standard in Princeton, such a howl is set up as one might imagine came from the throats of the despotized Russians when another of their liberties was taken away. One great trouble with us is that we are following too much the line of least resistance. Too many of us are looking for a diploma, and not caring how easily we get it. Another mistake is our not giving the powers that be credit for thinking before they act. It is quite evident that they are every bit as wise as we, in our man-of-the-worldliness, and furthermore they are paid to run the university in the best possible way. And so when some change is made which seems to interfere with your luxury or your schedule, don't get out your hammer and knock the men who have brought such discomfort upon you. The thing for you to do is to go out and try to arrive at their point of view. Find out why they did it. They no doubt have some more worthy end in view than your enjoyment of your after-breakfast smoke! And don't condemn a professor because he is strict, but respect him because he is a man. Above all things, don't be a faddist. If you honor a man today, don't entirely cast him off tomorrow because he happens to offend you in some small way. And

in everything take not so much thought for yourself and your pleasure, as for Princeton, which will become more and more dear to you every day, until that final June evening when you sing the last song and drink the last loving cup of your Princeton days.

A New Magazine.

The Librarian has called our attention to a new periodical of unusual interest to students. It is the *Inter-collegiate Debating Journal*, known as *Both Sides* and published at Cambridge, Mass., by an Inter-collegiate Board. It is issued in the interest of college debating in America, and will consist of reports of debates, lists of questions, with annotated bibliographies, etc.

Vol. I No. 1, contains a very readable article on the *Debating Method* by Ex-Governor L. F. C. Garvin of Rhode Island, reports of the Yale-Princeton, Pennsylvania-Virginia Debates; editorials and announcements of plans for the further issues of the journal. The first number is brought out by the Debating Council of Harvard University, but it is the intention that a permanent board of inter-collegiate editors, chosen on account of the interest shown in "*Both Sides*," will be responsible for the conduct of the Journal.

Single subscriptions are \$1.00, in clubs the rate ranges from 50 cents to 15 cents depending upon the size of the club.

E. E. Society.

The Electrical Engineering Society held its regular weekly meeting in the Engineering Building last Wednesday evening. A paper on "*Electric Lighting in Trains*" was read by J. C. Chrisman. B. C. Butler and G. L. Christman, presented a paper on the "*Maximum Distance to which Electric Power can be Transmitted*." Part of the proceedings of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers was read and discussed on this topic.